Oklahoma Chess Monthly

JULY 2018

Chess News and Chess History for Oklahoma

Gabe Coss Makes a "Dubrovnik" Set by Hand! See page 5.

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- Gabe Coss Handcrafts a Dubrovnik Set!
- Review by IM John Donaldson
- Plus News Bites, Game of the Month, Puzzles, Top 25 List, Tournament Reports, and more.

Tulsa Quads: Zhong Shines

The type of tournament called "Quads" — a four-player round-robin playable in one day — has long been a popular form of practice tournament used here in Tulsa and elsewhere as early as the 1970s. Recently the Tulsa players have gained access to a nice church facility that could handle up to 100 players, but was available only on Saturdays (the Harvard Avenue Baptist Church). We held the Holiday Open there last December, and they were asking us when we would come back! So with the help of Harold Brown I hastily arranged the "Tulsa Quads" on June 16. (The venue has also been offered to OSCO for some scholastic tournaments there after they showed interest.)

We had 30 players, with enough for six hard-fought quads plus a 6-player Swiss to round out the field.

NM Howard Zhong dominated the A quad with a 3-0 score and playing three nice attacking

"Oklahoma's Official Chess Bulletin Covering Oklahoma Chess on a Regular Schedule Since 1982"

http://ocfchess.org

Oklahoma Chess Foundation

Register Online for Free

Editor: Tom Braunlich

Asst. Ed. Rebecca Rutledge

Published the 1st of each month.

Send story submissions and tournament reports, etc., by the 15th of the previous month to mailto:tom.braunlich@cox.net

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games that were quite good for rapid time control play of G/50+15.

Two of Howard's games are annotated below, and his third game against Paolercio is *"Game of the Month"* (see page 17) annotated by Anthony.

The other Quads were also hard-fought with many good games being played. A small selection of games is below in the "Games from Recent Events" section (see page 14).

The event was directed by Tom Braunlich, with assistant TD Harold Brown.

Here are the results, with each winner pictured, as photographed by Cheng Zhong:

Quad A:

Howard Zhong (2289)	3-0
Anthony Paolercio (2108)	2-1
Michael Nugent (2039)	1-2
Tom Braunlich (2201)	0-3

Quad B:

James Long (2001)	2-1
Joe Dean Veal (1979)	1½-1½
Ryan Amburgy (1945)	1½-1½
Krish Kumar (1794)	1-2

Quad C:

Mike Parker (1624)	3-0
Danial Smith (1641)	2-1
Jim Huang (1696)	1-2
Richard Ravitz (1727)	0-3

Quad D:

Istvan Szabad (1462)	2-1
Scott Baker (1605)	1½-1½
Jerry W. Wells (1472)	1½-1½
Mike Covington (1434)	1-2

Quad E:

Omar Abouzahr (1152)	3-0

Alex C Smith (1170)	2-1
Uday Kabirpanthi (1134)	1-2
Loren Jamison (1123)	0-3

Quad F:

Jonathan Kennedy (1093)	3-0
Brent Reed (811)	2-1
Joey Gardner (715)	1-2
Samuel Carr (700)	0-1

Swiss:

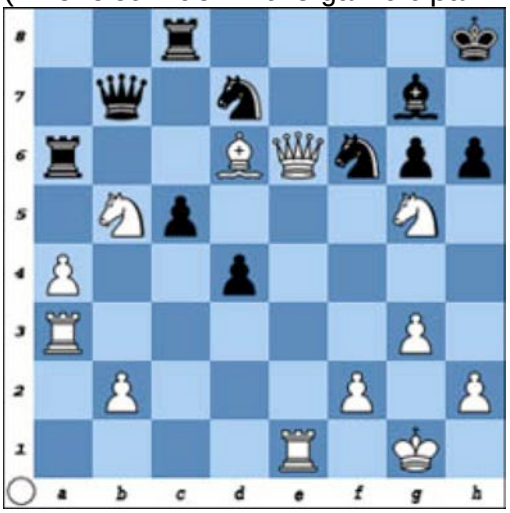
Zade Mahayni (1141)	2½-½
Rahul Pai (unr)	2-1
Liko Ironherron (605)	1½-1½
Justin Li (384)	1½-1½
Andrew Li (106)	1-2
Liam Cross (unr)	½-2½

The playing hall.

GAMES

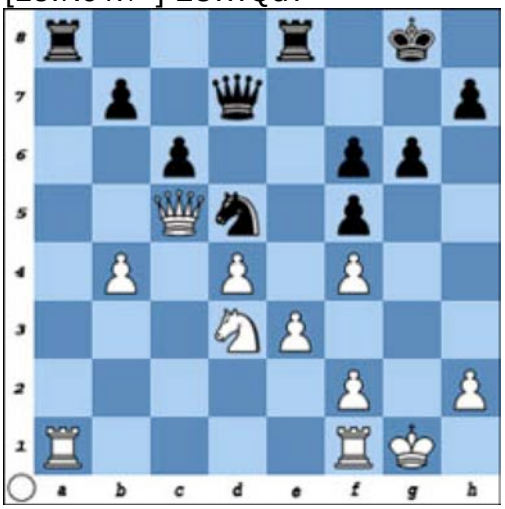
Zhong, Howard (2280) –
Nugent, Michael (2039)
Tulsa Quads (1.1), 16.06.2018 [A59]
[Notes by TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.Nf3 d6 8.e4 Bxf1 9.Kxf1 Nbd7 10.g3 Bg7 11.Kg2 0-0 12.a4 Ra6 In this classic Benko Gambit position, Michael tries a known plan here. This rook move supports the pawn on d6 so that black can play ...e6 soon and break in the center, followed soon by ...d5 with the queen's help from a8. More common is ...Qb6 or ...Qa5. 13.Ra3 Putting the R on a protect square so that the a-pawn is unpinned and Nb5 will be safe in the future. The Benko is full of nuances like these. 13...Qa8 14.Qc2 Rc8 [Although this move has been played before by several GMs, Michael soon regretted the absence of this rook from the kingside. The idea of this move is to pre-protect the c7square so that white's Nb5 won't be threatening a fork there -- and also possibly it supports the thrust ...c4. Probably better is the immediate break in the center, as in this game by Ramirez, who has done videos on the Benko: 14...e6 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.Re1 d5 17.exd5 exd5 18.Nb5 Qc6 You can see that compared with the game black is better placed for defense of his kingside here. 19.Ng5 Re8 20.Rxe8+ Nxe8 21.Bf4 h6 22.Nf3 g5 23.Qe2 Ndf6 24.Be5 Qe6 25.Nbd4? cxd4 26.Nxd4 Qc8 27.Rc3 Qa8 28.Qc2 Qb7 0-1 Wunnink (2251)- Ramirez (2599)/ 2014]
15.Re1 e6? [At this point black should give up on the ...e6 plan and do some maneuvering first. He could try the typical Benko idea of putting a N on e5 with ...Nfg4, or he could try to immediately invade on the queenside as in this game: 15...c4 Planning ...Nc5-d3. 16.Be3 Ng4 17.Bd4 Bxd4 18.Nxd4 Nge5 19.f4 Nd3 20.Re2 Nb4 21.Qd2 Nc5 and here white retains an edge, but at least black has lots of active counterplay, as in the game Maksimovic,B (2384)- Marinkovic,I (2448)/ 2014 0-1 (39).]
16.dxe6 fxe6 17.Bf4 d5 18.exd5 exd5 19.Nb5 White now is well poised for a lightning-fast attack down the e-file, as black's heavy pieces are all engaged on the queenside unable to help defend. 19...Nh5 20.Bd6 This bishop is strong here, cutting off black's lateral protection of his kingside. 20...Qb7 21.Qe2 Nhf6 [21...Nf8 22.Qd2 menaces Re7] 22.Qe6+ Kh8 23.Ng5 d4+ 24.Kg1

h6?! [24...Qd5 to trade queens was essential, even though the endgames are bad for black (who is still down the gambit pawn!)]



25.Qf7!? [This looks brilliant, but black does have a defense now, whereas a simple win was available with 25.Qh3 targeting black's weakened kingside pawns, threatening moves like Ne6 and Bf4.]
25...hxg5 26.Re7 Bf8? [Falling into white's scheme, but stubborn defense could have been put up by the obvious move 26...Rg8 Here, the attacking idea used in the game would not work thanks to a nice rejoinder: 27.g4 d3! 28.Rxd3 Rxa4 29.Rh3+ Nh7 and black's threat of back rank mate wins for him.; So maybe after 26...Rg8 27.g4 d3 white should now simply play 28.Qxg6 Bf8 29.Qxf6+ Nxf6 30.Rxb7 Bxd6 31.Rxd3 with three pawns for the piece and an unclear endgame that I think is probably good for white.] 27.g4! (idea Rh3) Bxe7 28.Rh3+ Nh5 29.gxh5 g4 30.hxg6+!
Nice attacking game by Howard. 1-0

Braunlich, Tom (2201)
Zhong, Howard (2289)
Tulsa Quads (2.1), 16.06.2018 [D00]
[Notes by TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 Bd6 5.g3 c6 6.Nd2 f5 7.Bg2 Nd7 8.Ne2 Nf6 9.c4 dxc4 10.Nxc4 Bc7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qc2 g6 13.Nf4 Re8 14.b4
[White should probably not give black the option of taking on f4 and should play the intended 14.Nd3 Ne4 15.b4]
14...Bxf4 15.gxf4 Be6 16.Ne5 Nd5!? [I was expecting 16...Bd5 17.Rab1 Be4 18.Bxe4 Nxe4 19.b5 with an even game.] 17.Rab1 a5 18.a3 axb4 19.axb4 Nc7 20.Qc5
The beginning of a plan to invade on the a-file, but perhaps it is neglecting my kingside too much, as Howard soon gets an initiative there.
20...Bd5 21.Bxd5 Nxd5 22.Ra1 f6 23.Nd3 [23.Nc4!?=] 23...Qd7



24.Ra7?! According to plan, but again maybe neglecting the kingside too much. [24.Qc4=] 24...Rxa7 25.Qxa7 Qe7! 26.Qc5
[The intended 26.Nc5 would unfortunately have been met by 26...b6! 27.Qxe7 Rxe7 28.Nd3 Ra7=+ Maybe instead 26. b5!? would have been best, temporarily sacking a pawn to distract black from attacking on the kingside, with about even chances.]
26...Qe4-+ Suddenly there is not much white can do about the threat of ...g5. White's pieces on the queenside are awkwardly placed and too far away.
27.Qc4 g5 28.Nc5 Qf3 29.fxg5 Kh8!-+ 30.Ra1 b6 31.Nd7 Rg8 32.h4 Desperation to keep the file closed, but white falls a couple tempos short of getting sufficient counterplay on the queenside.
32...fxg5 33.h5 Nf4! 34.Qxg8+ Kxg8 35.Ra8+ Kg7 [35...Kf7? 36.Ne5+] 36.exf4 White's pieces are too scattered and he has too many pawn weaknesses to hold this, especially in a rapid game. 36...Qxf4 37.Nxb6 Qxd4 38.Ra7+ Kh6 0-1

(More games from this event can be found in "Games from Recent Events" page 14)

Gabe Coss Handcrafts a Dubrovnik Chess Set and Videos it for YouTube!

Eight days ago I got an email from Chris Walker that said simply, "Came across this video that gave a nod to Oklahoma Chess Monthly" and provided this link to YouTube:

https://youtu.be/4_diPjsoRVY

So I clicked on it — and was *amazed!*

First, the video showed a guy who said he was inspired by Istvan Szabad's article in the January 2017 *Oklahoma Chess Monthly* to try to make a perfect copy of the famous "Dubrovnik 1950" chess set — the so-called "Stradivarius of Chess" Szabad wrote about. It's a short (under 8 minutes) well-done and fascinating video of his experiences trying to reproduce the set as accurately as possible — and the beautiful result he achieved. Truly impressive!

Second, I then look at the name of the person and … I know him! It's Gabe Coss, who played in the Steve Wharry Memorial last year in Tulsa where he won the reserve section.

So I have to find out more, of course. And I was able to contact him for an interview.

First take a few minutes to view the video, and then read on for more insightful comments and background details he gives us of this remarkable project. (See next page)

Interview with Gabe Coss

TB) How long have you had an interest in woodworking and what was the impetus for this hobby? What are some of the things you have made?

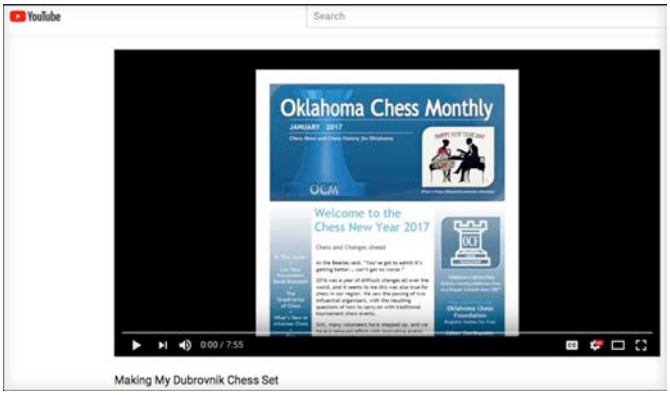
Coss) I was introduced to wood turning when I was about 12 years old and made a few crude chessmen but not an entire set. In college I became interested in machining and decided to build my own bench top metal working lathe from scrap following the series of books by Dave Gingery. Just after starting my professional career, I inherited my Granddad's 12" (Swing) X 36" (bed length) Craftsman metal working lathe which he tooled up for wood turning. This is the lathe seen in the video. I began using it mostly for metal machining, practicing on prototype parts for downhole oilfield tools from work. Then a work friend, a real woodworker, asked me to make some wood turned parts for projects he was working on. My wood turning skills were not great but I managed to get them done.

When I started making the Dubrovnik chessmen, my wood turning competency still had some major gaps.

Other things I've made include: a hand cut dovetail hope chest, numerous bowls and cups, legacy trophy for a fantasy football league, desk attachment for an office chair, shoe rack, guitar equipment organizer, and my homemade table saw

2) Describe your shop setup for us please… the video shows what looks like an extensive array of equipment and jigs.

One word: cramped. It's a single car garage with my Craftsman lathe, wood rack, homemade table saw, small bandsaw, long homemade metal bench, homemade wood work bench, miter saw (Granddad's), small drill press, big drill press (Granddad's), scroll saw, and big tool box. And it can all be moved to the side and still fit a car in the garage.

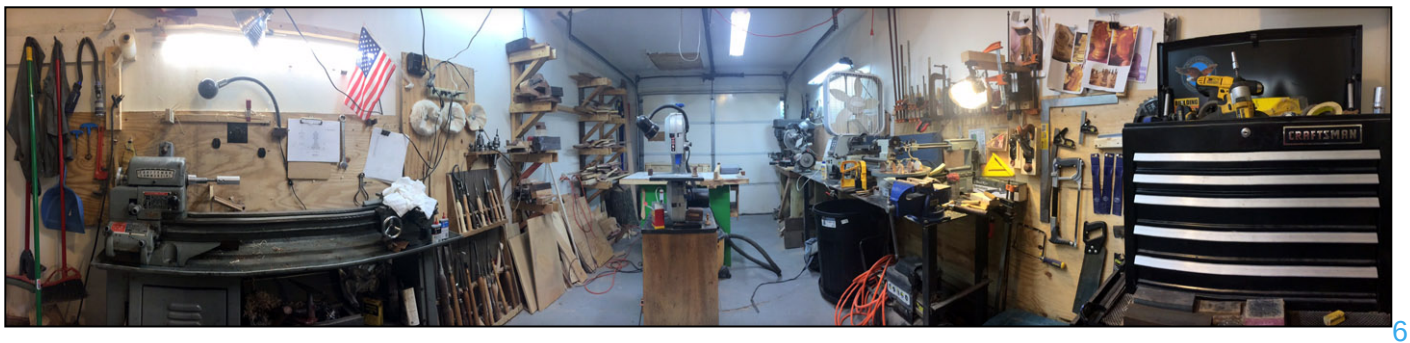


3) Your videos are quite well done and edited. Is sharing your projects on YouTube a major part of your hobby?

I would say it's a secondary hobby. I've learned enough to get by and I haven't invested in fancy cameras, sound, or lighting equipment. I'm just using my GoPro3. I mostly upload for friends and family to see what all there is to do in Duncan…make chessmen.

4) Besides your experience as a tournament player, what inspired you to tackle a difficult project like reproducing the original Dubrovnik set?

When I read Istvan Szabad's article on the Dubrovnik set in that issue of Oklahoma Chess Monthly (Jan 2017), it hit me. What had I been doing with my life? I was a hobby wood turner and a chess player. It then seemed like a crime that I hadn't made my own chess



set. And of all the sets I could make, I was sold by Istvan's article that this was the one. The only question, should I make the Dubrovnik II that Fischer owned, or the Original Dubrovnik that he specifically requested for his 1992 rematch with Spassky and said was the best set he's ever played on? Being that the Original Dubrovnik was more rare, I opted to tackle that one. My only concern were those knights...

5) What was your goal with the project? Several people in the comments to your video asked if they could buy one from you... do you have any interest in making more and selling them?

The goal was to build an exact replica set that was indistinguishable from the original sets. I imagined pulling the set out in front club players asking me where I got it and telling them that I found it in my grandpa's attic in Croatia.

Yes people were asking to buy them and I promised to sell a few sets to offset the cost of the tools I bought for the project. The first customer and well known collector, Mike Ladzinski, better known as goodknightmike on chess.com forum, asked me to make a 4 inch version of the set which I've now completed. I plan to post a video about it soon. If I make more than that, I will probably just post them for sale on eBay rather than trying to commit to any lead-time.

6) How long did it take to make each set? On the video it all happens at lightning speed and you make it look easy (except you had difficulty carving the knights).

The first set had a long learning curve and I would guess I spent about 70 hours making that set. The 3rd and 4th set I made took about 50 hours with the knights taking the longest, about 4 hours each.

Comparing his hand-carved knight with the original.

7) Would you recommend other chessplayers trying to make their own chess set? What basic equipment would they need to do it, and what resources would they require?

Absolutely!

You don't need a lathe like mine to make it. You can find small, cheap wood lathes for as little as $300 or maybe less on craigslist. If really ambitious and frugal, you could build your own lathe following the plans by Matthias Wandel. I believe even a homemade lathe like his could be used to make the sets I made.

I would recommend the book *Wood Turning Chessmen* by Mike Darlow that describes very simple and traditional techniques.

The methods I used were not conventional but convenient for the type of lathe I have. You would also need a basic set of turning gouges (a parting tool, a skew, a roughing gouge, a spindle gouge, and a

fingernail gouge), a bench grinder for sharpening, a few grits of sand paper, some finish, and the wood which can be bought pre-cut into turning blanks if you don't have a table saw. The tools to make the knights should be selected based on the shape of the knight. I only had five carving gouges when I made the knights for my set.

To study turning and carving technique, the best resource is free, YouTube. For turning technique, I learned the most from Richard Raffan's video on *Understanding Woodturning Catches* and video on *Turning a Basic Bowl*. For the knight carving, I learned the most from Mary May's *Beginning Woodcarving* videos.

The last resource you need is time. If you can afford to make one new piece each evening, then in about a month you will have your own hand made set. There is a great satisfaction of setting up the board with pieces you made.

Gabe's set (above). Compare with an original (below).

8) Do you plan to bring your set to use in future tournaments you play in?

Yes, I do. However, for now, I prefer the Steve Wharry set I won in the raffle at the Steve Wharry Classic last year. The weighted pieces of Steve's old set have such a nice feel that it's motivated me to weight my Dubrovnik set. And when I do start using my Dubrovnik set, I'm certainly not worried about it getting damaged, perhaps playing blitz, because the pieces are completely replaceable. I can just make more!

9) What else would you like to say about the project?

Overall, the project was very rewarding and taught me a great deal about woodworking. In fact, improving my woodworking skills reminded me of the same learning approach we take in chess: try/practice, suffer failure, study weaknesses, and repeat.

After scrapping about 50% of the pieces I was making from poor technique, I was running out of ideas about what to do with them — such as using scrapped pawns for drawer/cabinet knobs, pawn fridge magnets, Queen key chains, Bishop and Knight corn cob skewers...

I knew I needed to stop and study wood turning technique when I was holding corn on the cob with Dubrovnik Bishops!

I don't know Gabe, I think I could make some good use out of Dubrovnik corn-on-the-cob holders! It might be as close as I'll ever get to own a real Dubrovnik set!

Opening Name Trivia

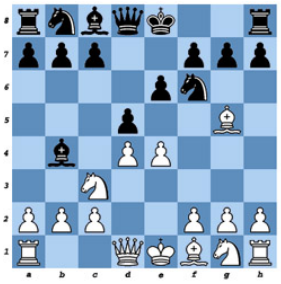
by Istvan Szabad

When we name chess openings, we use:

- People (Caro-Kann Defense, Bird's Opening, Torre attack, Benko gambit, etc.)
- Places (Danish Gambit, Slav Defense, London System, English Opening, etc.)
- Stories (Grand Prix Attack, Dragon, Cambridge Springs, Benoni Defense, etc.).

Each name has a story behind how it became known and accepted around the world. Here are three examples followed by a chess trivia quiz about opening names and players:

What is this variation of the French? 1. e4, e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 ?



It is the "McCutcheon Variation," named after John Lindsay McCutcheon (May 28, 1857 - July 17, 1905), an American attorney and amateur chessplayer of Scots-Irish descent who lived in the Pennsylvania-NewYork area.

His experience shows that even amateurs can be immortalized in chess history. He began developing his unique 4th move sometime in the 1870s, and was known for it locally, but in 1885 Willhelm Steinitz came to New York and played a simul, and McCutcheon used his variation to defeat the then world champion impressively:

[White "Wilhelm Steinitz"]
[Black "John Lindsay McCutcheon"]
[ECO "C12"]

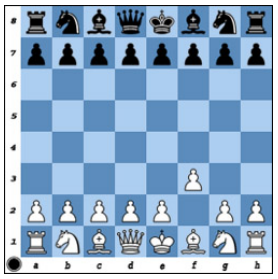
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bxf6

(6. Bd2 is considered best now)

gxf6 7. Nf3 f5 8. Bd3 c5 9. dxc5 Bxc5 10. O-O Nc6 11. Qd2 Qe7 12. Qf4 Bd7 13. Nb5 O-O-O 14. c4 Be8 15. Rfc1 Kb8 16. a3 a6 17. Nc3 dxc4 18. Bxc4 Nd4 19. Ne2 Nxf3+ 20. Qxf3 Bc6 21. Qh3 Ka7 22. b4 Bb6 23. Nc3 Rhg8 24. Bf1 Rd2 25. Nd1 Qg5 26. Rxc6 bxc6 27. Qc3 Qf4 28. Qxc6 Rxd1 0-1

This upset was published internationally, and caused a big stir, since it was a new idea early in one of the oldest defenses. Because McCutcheon's name was so strongly associated with it on the strength of this game, it was named after him. It became popular and was used occasionally by top GMs including Capablanca and others up until about the famous New York 1924 tournament. However around that time the main line was considered to be too strong for white, and although it wasn't refuted it fell out of favor and was eclipsed by another variation on the rise — the Winawer — for those who wanted a fighting game using the French Defense. Even so, it remains a variation that is quite playable and occasionally still seen in GM games.

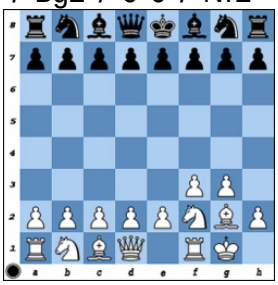
There is an Oklahoma connection behind the name of the opening move 1.f3. Do you know it?



In Oklahoma, it goes by the name of the "Ware Opening," named after Robert Ware, a Tulsan of about 1400 rating who wrote an opening book on it in the early 1970s and used it all his chess career. Ware was a war hero and chess lover, who ran the Tulsa chess club for many years.

In other parts of the world it goes by different names. Ware's strategy with this opening, however, was unique from other

versions. He would play the following sequence: f3 / g3 / Nh3 / Bg2 / 0-0 / Nf2 in order to reach this setup:

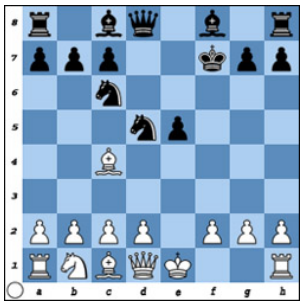


He liked this compact position with the knight "fianchettoed" on f2 alongside the bishop.

Do you know the Fried Liver Attack?

I am sure that very few of us know where this crazy name for a crazy opening came from. The first moves are:

1. e4 - e5, 2.Nf3 - Nc6, 3. Bc4 - Nf6, 4. Ng5 - d5, 5. exd5 - Nxd5, 6. Nxf7!? - Kxf7



The Fried Liver Attack arises White's first three moves being played along the lines of the Giuoco Piano opening (a name with Italian origins, what means "quiet game").

The Italian connection continues, as the Fried Liver Attack got its name from the Italian way of preparing liver, known as "Fegatello". A pig's liver is cut, crushed and wrapped in a net, then roasted over an open flame or is a skillet. The metaphor is Black's king: it is drawn out into the open so that White can turn up the heat. One slip and Black may find his precious monarch cooked. It is also an Italian idiom to say that something is "dead as a piece of liver".

If you like *heated* openings, and don't mind sacrificing a piece so you can immediately begin a king hunt, consider adding the Fried Liver Attack to the *menu*!

And now let's see some interesting quiz questions about the name of openings:
(answers follow at the end)

1./ Ruy Lopez was a priest from Spain who lived all the way back in the 16th century. Later in life, Ruy Lopez was elevated from the priesthood and became a bishop.
This statement is:
A./ Right
B./ False

2./ Who was the player famous for his opening variations who was born to a 72-year-old father and a 19-year-old mother(!)?
A./ Tartakower
B./ Rubinstein
C./ Philidor

3./ Captain Evans (Evans gambit) was a sailor and was a captain of a Post Office steamship that made journeys back and forth between Milford Haven (Wales) and Waterford (Ireland).
A./ Right B./ False

4./ The Caro-Kann Defense is named after two men: Horatio Caro and Marcus Kann.
Which statement is right?
A./ Both were from the United Kingdom.
B./ Caro was from United Kingdom and Kann from the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

5./ Dr. Geza Maroczy (Maroczy Bind) and GM Peter Leko both were born in the same small Hungarian town (Szeged).
A./ Right
B./ False

6./ Who was Nimzowitsch talking about here: "He, to me, always meant mediocrity; it is true that he was a very strong player, but all his views, his sympathies and antipathies, and above all his inability to conceive any new idea - all this clearly attested to the full mediocrity of his cast of mind."
A./ Tartakower
B./ Maroczy
C./ Tarrash

7./ "He was the youngest of 12 children, was in training to become a rabbi, but when he learned chess at 16 he became so smitten that he decided to abandon his studies and devote himself entirely to the game." Who was he?
A./ Alekhine
B./ Rubinstein
C./ Nimzowitsch

TOP 25

For JULY 2018

1	Advait Patel	2570	-26	
2	Howard Zhong	2299	19	
3	Daniel Ng	2273	0	
4	Mark Hulsey	2233	0	
5	Bart Gibbons	2217	0	
6	Tom Braunlich	2200	-1	
7	Sergey Galant	2188	0	
8	Joshua Alexander	2142	0	
9	Anthony Paolercio	2124	16	▲
10	Chibuzo C Ilonze	2107	-26	▼
11	Adonis Turner	2103	0	
12	John Cope	2084	0	
13	Logan Zachare	2076	31	▲
14	James Tyner	2074	0	▼
15	David Luscomb	2072	0	▼
16	Chuck Johnson	2063	0	▼
17	Charles D Unruh	2062	0	▼
18	Tom Patton	2060	0	▼
19	Matt Dalthorp	2045	0	
20	Michael Nugent	2042	3	
21	Charles M Unruh	2037	-2	
22	Veronika Zilajeva	2030	0	
23	Alan Islas	2024	0	
24	James Long	2004	3	
25	Jeff Colbert	1998	14	▲

Player of the Month

Gabe Coss

He travels the world working for Haliburton, so he seldom has time for chess, but when he gets time he does extraordinary things. See the Dubrovnik article above!

8./ Alekhine had 2 cats. What were their names?
A./ "Chess" and "Checkmate"
B./ "Lasker" and "Steinitz"
C./ “White” and “Black”

9./ Which statement is right?
A./ Ernst Grunfeld (Grunfeld Defense) was born into a rich family and was excellent Marathon runner.
B./ Ernst Grunfeld was born into a poverty. He lost a leg early in his life.

10./ "Never in my life have I had such a won game after 10 moves as I have now!" Which famous player said these words to whom?
A./ Tarrasch said to Nimzowitsch
B./ Nimzowitsch said to Tarrasch.

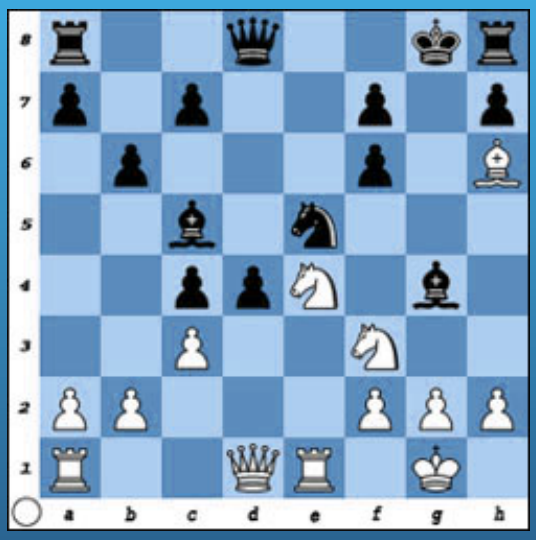
11./ Miguel Najdorf (Najdorf Variation) of Poland was tutored in chess by his countryman, who Najdorf always referred to as "my teacher."
Who was that person?
A./ Akiba Rubinstein
B./ Savielly Tartakower
C./ Szymon Winawer

12./ Vasja Pirc (Pirc Defense) is a name that everybody gets wrong. Normally when a foreign name is Anglicized, the English spelling is suggestive of its pronunciation. Not so for Pirc - his name is correctly articulated as "Peerts", not "Perk".
World War II saw Pirc's home city of Ljubljana (Slovenia) occupied by the Axes forces. The war put a stop to European chess tournaments, so Pirc contented himself by meeting every Tuesday with another local grandmaster. Over the course of the war they reportedly played around 1,000 games. Who was that "another local grandmaster"?
A./ Milan Vidmar
B./ Ljubomir Ljubojevic

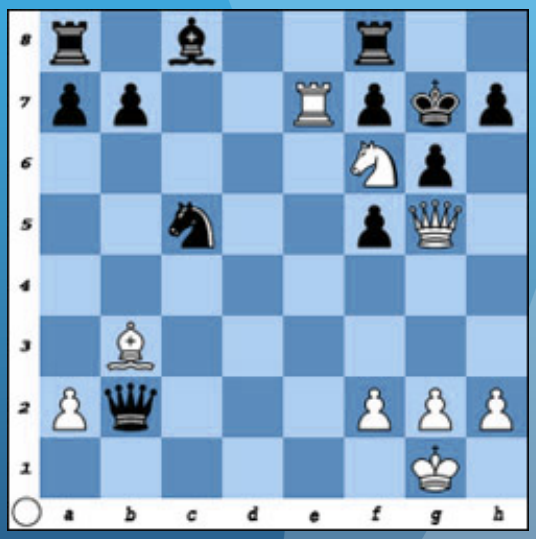
13./ Which statement is right?
A./ Pal Benko (Benko Gambit) was born in France, raised in Hungary, and moved to the United States in 1957.
B./ Pal Benko was born into poverty in

PUZZLES

Answers Next Page



White to move and win. (Medium)



White to move and win. (Medium)

Brooklyn from Hungarian parents.

14./ Which statement is right?
A./ The Scandinavian Defense first was played in Valencia, Spain in 1475.
B./ The Scandinavian Defense first was played by Ludvig Collijn, chairman of the Swedish Chess Federation in 1917.

19./ Which statement is right?
A./ Scheveningen (Scheveningen Variation) is named after the Dutch word for “machine gun.”
B./ Scheveningen is a seaside district of The Hague (Netherlands).
C./ Scheveningen is a resort not too far from Hamburg (Germany).

20./ Which statement is right?
A./ "Benoni" (Benoni Defence) is named after the Italian word for “Banana.”
B./ “Benoni” is a Hebrew term for "son of my sorrow" from the Book of Genesis 35:18
C./ “Benoni” is a small old town in the north part of Lebanon.

Answers to the Istvan’s Quiz:

1./ A
2./ C
3./ A
4./ B
5./ B False, but close. Maroczy was born in Szeged and moved to Budapest. Leko was born elsewhere but now lives in Szeged.
6./ C
7./ B
8./ A
9./ B
10./ A
11./ B
12./ A
13./ A
14./ A
15./ B
16./ B

Answers to the Puzzles

(1) White's knights can finish the job against black's cornered king. 1. Nxe5!, Bxd1 2. Nd7! and now there is no way to stop mate by a knight on f6 – if 2… Be7 3. Nexf6+, Bxf6 4. Re8+! Qxe8 5. Nxf6 mate.

(2) It's hard to see, but we can make black vulnerable on the back rank with a few preparatory moves: 1. Rxf7+!, Rxf7 2. Nh5+ and now black must move the king back but all the possible moves are met by Qd8 and mate.

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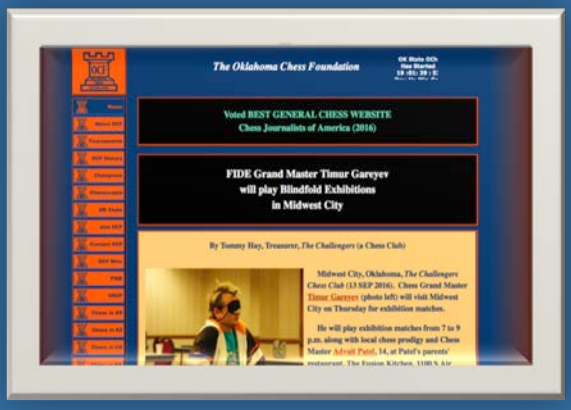
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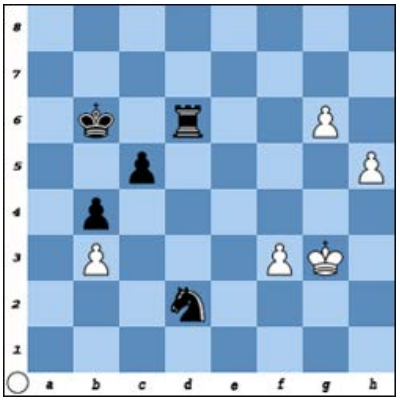
… and more

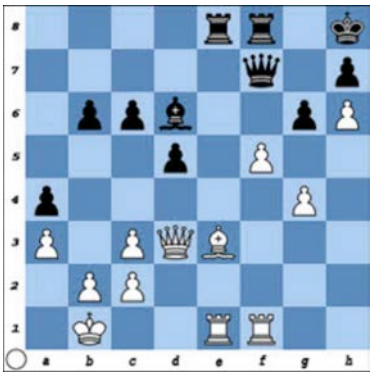
Johnson, Chuck (2077)
Luscomb, David (2068) [A61]
FKB Memorial (4.5), 20.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.e4 Bg7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 Ne5 11.Be2 Re8 12.Re1 Bd7 13.a4 a6 14.h3 Bh6 15.b3 b6 16.Bb2= Qc8 17.Bf1 Rb8 18.Kh2 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.Nf3 Bf4+ 21.g3 Nxf3+ 22.Qxf3 Be5 23.Rab1 b4 24.Na4 Nh5 25.Bxe5 Rxe5 26.Nb2 f5 27.Nc4! fxe4 28.Qe3 Rxd5 29.Rbd1!≤ Qc6? [29...Bc6 30.Nxd6 Qe6 31.Rxd5 Bxd5 32.Qxc5≤] 30.Na5 Rxd1 31.Nxc6 Rxe1 32.Ne7+ Kf7 33.Qxe1 Kxe7 34.Qxe4+±
After lots of creative play from both sides white has landed in a winning endgame, but black's pawns on the queenside will give counterplay...
34...Kd8 35.Qh4+ Kc7 36.Qe7 Ra8 37.g4 Nf4 38.Bb5 Rd8 39.Kg3 Nd5 40.Qxh7 Nc3 41.Bxd7 Rxd7 42.Qxg6 d5 43.Qd3 d4 44.g5 Kb6 45.h4 Na2 46.Qf5 Kc6 47.Qe4+ Kb6 48.Qg4 Kc7 49.g6 d3 50.Qf4+
[50.g7 d2 51.g8Q d1Q 52.Qxd1 Rxd1+-]
50...Kb6 51.Qd2 Nc3 52.f3 Nb1 53.Qh6 Rd6 54.h5?
[54.Qf8± Rxg6+ 55.Kf2 d2 56.Qd8+ Kc6 57.Qe8+ Kc7 58.Qf7+ Kd8 59.Qf8+ Kc7 *(59...Kd7 60.Qf5+ Re6 61.Qxb1)* 60.Qxc5+ Kd8 looks like the best chance for white, but it is still hard to make progress.]
54...d2 55.Qxd2 Nxd2



(see diagram)

56.g7 c4?!
[56...Rd8! 57.h6 Rg8 58.Kf4 Nxb3 59.h7 Rxg7 60.h8Q Rd7 61.Qb8+=]
57.g8Q c3 58.Qh7 Nxb3 59.Qe4?
[59.Qb1!+- Nd4 60.Qxb4+ Nb5 61.Qf4 c2 62.h6 Rc6 63.h7 c1Q 64.Qxc1 Rxc1 65.h8Q White wins, as black is out of pawns for counterplay but white still has one!]
59...Nd4= 60.Kg4 c2 61.h6 c1Q 0-1

Patel, Advait (2586)
Luscomb, David (2068) [C42]
FKB Memorial (5.1), 20.05.2018
[TB]
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b6 9.0-0-0 Bb7 10.h4 Nd7 11.h5!?
[This appears to be a new move in my limited database. A great recent GM game went: 11.Bd3 Nf6 12.Bd4 c5 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Qf4 d5 15.h5 Re8 16.g4 g6 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.g5 Bg7 19.Rh7 d4 20.Bc4 Qe7 *(20...Bxf3 21.Rxg7+ Kxg7 22.Qxf7+ Kh8 23.Qxg6 Re7 24.Qf6+ Rg7 25.Qxf3 Qxg5+ 26.Kb1±)* 21.Qh4 1-0 Dominguez Perez,L (2754)-So,W (2719)/Wijk aan Zee 2014]
11...Nc5 12.Be2 a5 13.Rhg1 a4 14.a3 f5
[Never play ...f5 against 2500 players. That's one thing I've learned. ;-) Better was 14...Ne4 15.Qd3 Re8 16.h6 g6 when black is fine.]
15.h6 g6 16.Bc4+ Kh8 17.Ng5 Ne4 18.Nxe4 fxe4 19.Bd5 and suddenly the e-pawn is weak and falls. 19...Bxd5 20.Qxd5 Bf6 21.Qxe4 Qd7 22.g4 Rae8 23.Qd3 Be5 24.Rde1 Qf7 25.Rgf1 d5
[Trying to keep the blockade with 25...Bf4 runs into 26.Qd4+ Re5 *(26...Kg8 27.Qxf4 Qxf4 28.Bxf4 Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Rxf4 30.Re8+ Rf8 31.Rxf8+ Kxf8 32.f4+-)* 27.Qxa4 Qa2]
26.f4 Bd6 27.f5+- c6



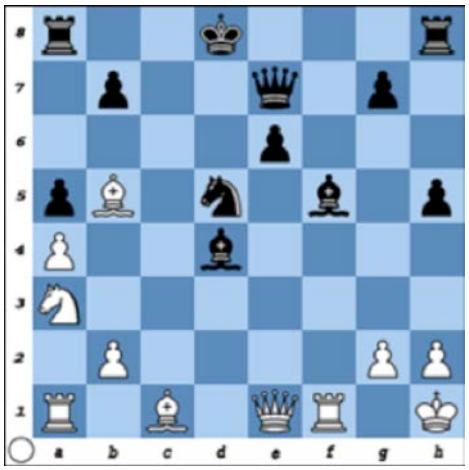
28.fxg6 A nice combination to finish the game. 28...Qxg6 29.Bd4+ Kg8 30.Qxg6+ hxg6 31.h7+ Kxh7 32.Rh1+ Kg8 33.Rh8+ 1-0

Wells, Rubin (1551)
Parker, Mike (1700) [D00]
FKB Memorial (3.10), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 Bd6 5.Bg3 b6 6.Nd2 Ba6 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.c3 b5 9.Ngf3 0-0 10.Ne5 c5 11.Ndf3 Ne4 12.Rc1 Nxg3 13.hxg3 f6

14.Qd3! fxe5 15.Qxh7+ Kf7 16.Qh5+ Ke7 17.Qg5+ Kd7 18.Qxg7+ Qe7 19.Rh7 Qxg7 20.Rxg7+ Kc6 21.dxe5 Bc7 22.Ke2 Rae8 23.Rh1 Rf5 24.g4 Rff8 25.Rh6 Rg8 26.Rxg8 Rxg8 27.Rxe6+ Kb7 28.g5 c4 29.g6 Nc5 30.Rf6 Bd8 31.Rf7+ Kb6 32.g7 Ne6 33.Rd7 Rxg7 34.Rd6+ Ka5 35.Rxe6 Rxg2 36.Rd6 Be7 37.Rxd5 and white won 1-0

TULSA QUADS

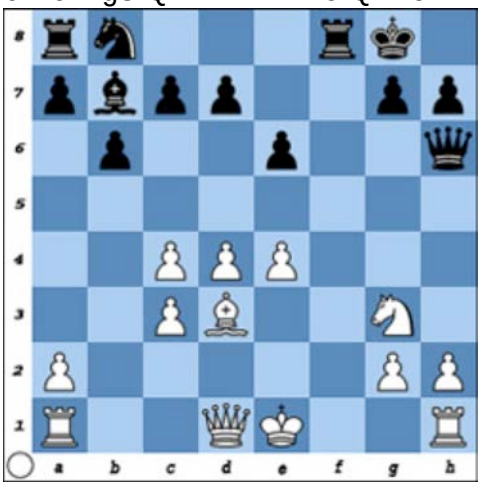
Long, James (2001)
Kumar, Krish (1794)
Tulsa Quads (1.2), 16.06.2018 [A03]
[TB]
Strangely, this was the only decisive game in this Quad section. 1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Be2 Bf5 5.0-0 e6 6.d3 Bc5 7.Qe1 Qe7 8.c3 a5 9.Ne5 Nxe5 10.fxe5 Nd7 11.d4 Bb6 12.a4 c5?! [I don't particularly like this as it gives away the b5 square to white. Perhaps Krish was reluctant to castle kingside here, where white has a space advantage, but actually black's bishop defends that side nicely and if white tries to push pawns against it he will only weaken his own king. Meanwhile black would continue ...f6 soon with a comfortable game, maybe a little better for black. 12...0-0] 13.Kh1 h5!? Interesting. Krish commits his king to the center in order to set up counterattacking on the h-file. Very risky. [13...0-0≥] 14.Na3 f6!? More provocation, but black wants to get his knight to the kingside where it can make some threats. The center doesn't look stable enough to leave the black king there, so somebody's attack is going to break through soon. 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Bb5+ Kd8! [16...Nd7 is okay, but black doesn't want to retreat his N. He wants it to go to e4, with threats.] 17.c4!? Natural James plays for counterplay against the exposed black king and is willing to sacrifice a pawn or two. 17...cxd4? [Black shouldn't open the game for white, but instead should press on with 17...h4! menacing ...h3 or ...Ne4-g3. 18.dxc5 Qxc5 19.cxd5 h3! with a pretty good attack despite both kings being unsafe.] 18.exd4 Bxd4 Grabbing a pawn is too greedy, opening the d-file is suicidal at this juncture. [18...h4] 19.cxd5 Nxd5



20.Qd1! Attacking d4/d5 and f5, and black comes under a crossfire. 20...Qc5 21.Bg5++-

Bf6 22.Rc1 Qe7 23.Rxf5 Qd6 24.Rxf6 gxf6 25.Bxf6+ Qe7 26.Bxe7+ Kxe7 27.Qd4 Rac8 28.Qg7+ Kd6 29.Nc4+ 1-0

Wells, Jerry W (1474)
Baker, Scott (1605)
Tulsa Quads (2.4), 16.06.2018 [A40]
[TB]
1.d4 e6 2.c4 b6 3.Nc3 Bb7 4.e4 Bb4 5.Bd3 f5 6.f3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Nh6 8.Ne2 fxe4 9.fxe4 0-0 10.Ng3 Qh4 11.Bxh6 Qxh6



White's king is nicely stuck in the middle. 12.Qe2 Nc6 13.Kd1!? A good try. White sees a safe spot on c2 for his king. 13...Rf7 14.Kc2 Raf8 15.Raf1 Rxf1 16.Nxf1 Qg5 [16...e5 17.d5 Ne7≥] 17.Ne3 Qa5 18.Kb2 Qg5 [18...e5 19.d5 Ne7≥] 19.Rf1 Rxf1 20.Nxf1 Qh4 21.g3 Qf6 22.Nd2 e5 23.d5 Na5 24.Nb3 Nice defense from Wells, who comes from Eureka Springs, Arkansas. 24...Nxb3 25.axb3 c6 26.Qg2 c5 27.Be2 Qg5 28.Bf3 d6 29.h3 Bc8 30.h4 Qe3 31.Qe2 Qxe2+ 32.Bxe2 Kf7 33.Kc2 Kf6 34.g4 g5 35.h5 h6 36.Kd2 a5 37.Kc2 Ke7 38.Kb2 Bd7 39.b4 axb4 40.cxb4 cxb4 41.Kb3 Kd8 42.Kxb4 Kc7 ½ - ½

Veal, Joe Dean (1979)
Long, James (2001)
Tulsa Quads (2.3), 16.06.2018 [A10]
1.c4 e6 2.g3 f5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.Nc3 d6 7.d3 Nc6 8.e4 e5 9.Nd5 fxe4 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.dxe4 Bg4 12.h3 Be6 13.b3 Qe8 14.Be3 Qg6 15.g4 Be7 16.Qd3 Rf7 17.a3 Raf8 18.Nd2 h5 19.f3 Bg5 20.Rae1 Bxe3+ 21.Qxe3 Nd4 22.b4 Bc8 23.c5 Ne6 24.cxd6 cxd6 25.Qxa7 Nf4 26.Qe3 Qh6 27.Kh2 hxg4 28.fxg4 Bxg4 29.Nc4 Bd7 30.Rg1 Qe6 31.Bf1 Bb5 32.Nb2 Qd7 33.Qb3 Bxf1 34.Rexf1 Ne2 35.Rxf7 Qxf7 36.Qxf7+ Rxf7 ½ - ½

Reed, Brent (811)
Kennedy, Jonathan (1093)
Tulsa Quads (2.6), 16.06.2018 [D07]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Ne7 8.Be2 Ng6 9.0-0 Be7 10.e5 b6 11.Qc2 Bb7 12.a4 0-0 13.Ba3 c5 14.Rfd1 Qc7 15.Rac1 Rad8 16.Qb1 Nf4 17.Qb2 Qd7 18.dxc5 Qxa4 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.Bf1 Ba6 21.c4 Nd3 22.Bxd3 Rxd3 23.Ra1 Rd1+ 24.Ne1

24...Qxc4! 25.h3 Qf1+ 26.Kh2 Rxe1 27.Rxe1 Qxe1 28.cxb6 Bxa3 29.Qxa3 Qxe5+ 30.g3 Qe2 31.bxa7 Qxf2+ 32.Kh1 Bb7+ 0-1

Oklahoma City Open

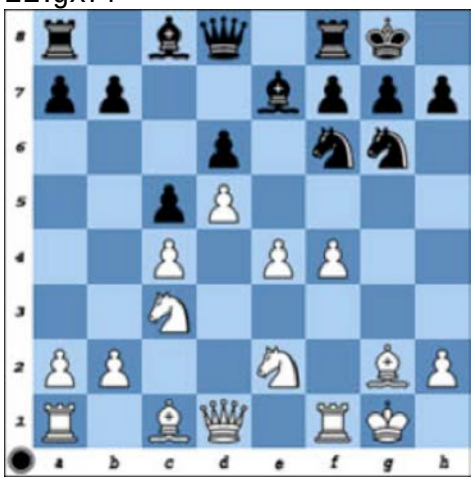
Orton, Bill (2200)
Naputo, Neil (1980)
Oklahoma City Open 18-02-2018
1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Bd3 e5 4. c3 Nbd7 5. Nf3 c6 6. O-O Qc7 7. Re1 Be7 8. Nbd2 h6 9. Nf1 g5 10. Ng3 Nf8 11. dxe5 dxe5 12. Qb3 Be6 13. Bc4 b5 14. Bxe6 Nxe6 15. Nf5 Kf8 16. Qc2 Rd8 17. b3 Bc5 18. b4 Bb6 19. Be3 Kg8 20. a4 Bxe3 21. Nxe3 Kh7 22. axb5 Kg7 23. bxc6 Rb8 24. Nd5 Qxc6 25. Nxe5 Qd6 26. Nxf6 (26. Nxf7 Kxf7 27. Nxf6) 26... Kxf6 27. Ng4+ Kg7 28. Rxa7 Rhc8 29. Ne3 (29. e5 Qd8 30. Nf6) 29... Qe5 30. Nd5 Rc4 31. Qd3 Rbc8 32. g3 g4 33. Qe2 h5 34. h4 (34. Ra5) 34...Qb8 35. Ra2 Qe5 36. f4 gxf3 37. Qxf3 Rxc3 38. Nxc3 Rxc3 39. Re3 Nd4 40. Qf2 Rc1+ 41. Kg2 Qe6 42. Rd2 Qc4 43. Qf4 Ne6 44. Qe5+ f6 45. Rd7+ (45. Qf5 Nd4 46. Qf2 Qxb4 47. Red3 Nc6 48. Qf5) 45... Kg8 46. Qb8+ Nf8 47. Rf3 Qe2+ 0-1

Zhong,Howard (2289)
Paolercio,Anthony (2108)
Tulsa Quads (3.1), 16.06.2018 [A56]

[Notes by Anthony Paolercio]

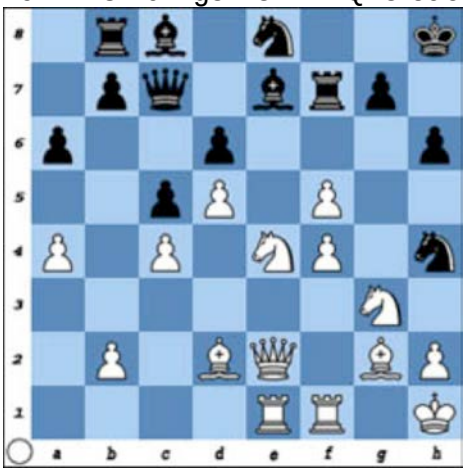
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5
Intending to play a Czech Benoni, a fun line which is sound, but pretty closed.

3.d5
The most common reply, inviting a Modern Benoni or Benko Gambit. [Another common reply is 3.Nf3 , which allows a gambit. 3...cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d5 6.cxd5 Bc5 with sharp and interesting play. Kasparov used to play this gambit also]
3...e5 The Czech Benoni. This leads to a closed dark-squared pawn structure, and it can be difficult for White to gain an attack. Many players don't know how to reply to this defense.
4.Nc3
[Not recommended is 4.dxe6 fxe6 This is not a great way to play for White. It avoids the closed structure of the main lines, but Black will equalize pretty easily with an unpreventable ...d5 very soon.]
4...d6 5.e4 Be7 6.g3 The most popular way of developing. 6...Nbd7 Not being very knowledgeable on this opening, I just follow a general plan of development, which includes moving the queen's knight to g6, castling, and trying for an ...f5 break eventually. This has worked well in some blitz games and other games. However, this is not the best plan, I found out later. [6...0-0 7.Bg2 Ne8 *(7...Na6 8.Nge2 Ne8 9.0-0 Bd7* also a standard plan*)* 8.Nge2 Nc7 strange moves! 9.0-0 Bd7 is more of the way to go. The scheme of development from the game was too formulaic.]
7.Bg2 Nf8 8.Nge2
[8.h4 is another good idea]
8...Ng6 9.0-0 0-0
[TB-- GM Ben Finegold, of St. Louis, has played a different plan here, going 9...h5 and delaying castling to attack down the rook file. Hard to believe, but he has made it work.]
10.f4 exf4 as a general rule, Black captures in this system after f4.
11.gxf4



11... Ne8
Trying to play for ...f5, obviously.
[TB-- Nimzovich would advocate a plan of 'restraint' here with 11...Re8 followed by ...Bf8 to restrain white from playing e4-e5, with an okay game, though cramped.]
12.Ng3 a6 13.a4 Rb8
Black doesn't have many great ideas, so I throw in the option of playing ...Bd7 and ...b5 later on, if nothing happens. Unfortunately, something happens.
14.Qe2
Probably threatening e5. Black doesn't want this.
14...Qc7 [Not bad, but 14...Bf6 is better, activating the dark bishop, and possibly trading him off (this is generally Black's bad bishop in this system, since pawns are on the dark squares) 15.Be3 h6 16.Rad1 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nf6 and variations such as this are possible]

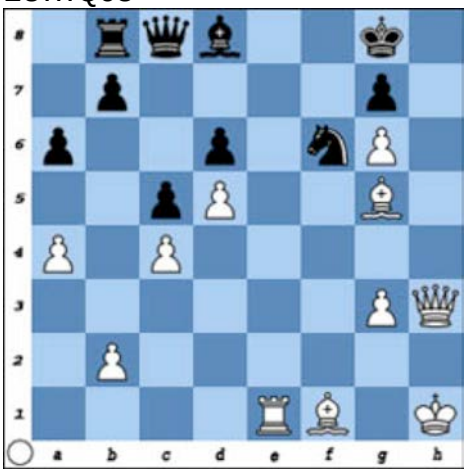
15.Kh1 Kh8
Too determined to play ...f5. It was hard to find any other plan for me. Putting the bishop on f6 was still better.
[TB--The problem with the immediate 15...Nh4 to support ...f5, is that it allows 16.e5±]
16.Bd2 f5?
White is now winning, due to the back rank and unfortunate lack of coordination of Black's pieces. Reflecting back, it doesn't make sense to open the position yet, without the queen's bishop on d7 first.
17.exf5 Nh4
This was my intention, to capture back with the knight and hopefully a comfortable game. But there's not enough time! White's pieces start rolling quickly, and the attack is unstoppable
18.Rae1!
Strong simple developing moves do the trick and Black's position becomes very tenuous
18...Rf7
[18...Bf6?? 19.Qxe8;
18...Bxf5 19.Qxe7 Qxe7 20.Rxe7 Bd3 21.b3! Bxf1 22.Bxf1 the bishops will far outweigh the rook;
18...Nxg2 19.Kxg2 Rf7 20.Nce4 similar to the game.]
19.Nce4!
Howard finds one good move after another. Black can't let the knight into g5! The only thing that will stop this initiative is a bad blunder.
19...h6
[19...Bxf5 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.fxg5 *(21.Qxe8+ Rf8* kind of lets Black off the hook*)* 21...Qd7 something is sure to give soon 22.Nxf5 Nxf5 23.Bh3 g6 24.Bxf5 gxf5 25.Bc3+ Kg8 26.g6! hxg6 27.Rg1 Black's done;
19...Nxg2 20.Kxg2 Nf6 21.Ng5 Bf8 giving the Exchange is probably Black's best chance,
19...Bf8 20.Ng5 Re7 21.Qh5 ouch]



20.Ng5!!
Beautiful move.
19...h6 didn't prevent anything!

20...hxg5
This felt forced, but still it doesn't offer any resistance at all [20...Rf8 21.Qxe7 Qxe7 22.Rxe7 who would want to play this?]
21.Qh5+ Kg8 22.fxg5
I thought for a long time, and tried to find a defense, but the combination of g6 and hanging knight on h4 is too much.
22...Bxf5
[22...Nxf5 23.Be4 Nxg3+ *(23...g6 24.Qxg6+ Neg7 25.Nxf5)* 24.hxg3 Nf6 25.gxf6 gxf6 26.Kg2+- --TB]
23.Nxf5! Nxf5 24.g6 Ng3+ 25.hxg3 Rxf1+ 26.Bxf1 Nf6 27.Qh3
[27.Qh4 (with the idea of Bh3) is a little better, but it all wins. I like the move he played.]
27...Bd8 28.Bg5
[28.Re8+ Nxe8 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Qh8+ Ke7 31.Qg8 with unstoppable mate]

28...Qc8



29.Re8+! 1-0
A really nice game by Howard Zhong.
I learned some valuable lessons, and I hope you did too!

IM John Donaldson Book Review

Fundamental Chess: Logical Decision Making

A new book from India

(Metropolitan Chess Publishing, metrochessla.com, 285 pages, paperback, algebraic notation, $29.95).

Few countries have made as much progress in the chess world as India the past thirty years. Go back to the Dubai Olympiad in 1986 and the Indian team led by 16-year-old Viswanathan Anand did not have a single Grandmaster playing on it. Contrast that with 2018 where India has three players over 2700 FIDE and another seven players over 2600. Add to that many talented youngsters on the rise and clearly things have changed.

One of the people responsible for this remarkable transformation is Grandmaster Ramachandran Ramesh. Perhaps best known as the successful Captain of the Indian Olympiad team which took the bronze medals at the 2014 Olympiad without Anand, Ramesh has also coached many successful Indian junior players including Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu who is 2517 on the January 2018 FIDE rating list at the age 12.

Grandmaster Ramesh shares some of his secrets as a trainer and coach in his book

Fundamental Chess: Logical Decision Making is divided into three parts: Part 1 – Logical Reasoning, Part 2 – Practical Chess Play and Part 3 – Fundamentals of Chess Training. As the title implies emphasis is placed on instructing the reader in how to use logical reasoning to guide the decision making process.

Ramesh's experience coaching young children shows in his advice on opening preparation for less advanced players;

Until a player reaches a FIDE rating of 1800-2000, he should focus not on the openings, but on the middlegame. Specifically, he must learn to calculate well, learn the basic principles of chess, learn how to develop properly and quickly, how to play for the initiative, learn the value of the pieces, the art of attack, play games in tournaments and in training, learn that passive play can't always be avoided, study the classics, analyze his own games, solve a lot of puzzles, and read books on past champions as well as middlegame thinking and basic endgames. Until a player has reached this stage, learning the principles of the opening is more important and building up a basic opening repertoire is enough.

The chapter entitled The Importance of Results and Ratings should be required reading for all parents who are obsessed with their child's rating. Ramesh quotes Anand as saying the most important element for making progress in chess is having a love for the game. Put in the work and the results will come.

Fundamental Chess: Logical Decision Making will be useful for a wide variety of players working alone, but primarily those rated 1800-2300. This book is also a useful resource for coaches.

2018 JERRY SPANN MEMORIAL

50th Anniversary

July 14-15 • Oklahoma City OK • 5-SS

Wyndham Hotel Oklahoma City, 2945 Northwest Expressway, OKC

Time Control: G/90+30;

Two Sections: Open, and **Reserve** (U1600).
ENTRY FEE: $40 if mailed by 7/9, $50 thereafter,
FREE entry for Masters 2200+ (deducted from prize-winnings)

Prizes: $$2100

Open: $500(G)-200 U2100: 200-100, U1900: 200-100,
Reserve (U1600): $250-100, U1400: 200-100, U1100/UNR: 150.
More $$ if entries permit.

Byes: One half-point bye Rds 1-5 if commit before Sat 9PM.
REGISTRATION 9-9:45 Sat AM **Rounds**: 10-2:30-7, 9-1:15.
Entries to: Tom Braunlich, 7500 S. Birch, Broken Arrow OK 74011.
Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net **Web**: www.ocfchess.org

Jerry Spann was a much-beloved early chess organizer in Oklahoma who became President of the U.S. Chess Federation in 1957-1960 and is widely credited with saving the organization from bankruptcy.

When he died in 1968 the players of Oklahoma voted to call the annual state championship the "Jerry Spann Memorial", which is this year celebrating its 50th anniversary.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

For More Tournament Info Visit the USCF Tournament Site:
www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php

July 14-15, 2018 JERRY SPANN MEMORIAL OKC, OK

5-SS; G/90+30; Wyndham Hotel Oklahoma City, 2945 Northwest Expressway, OKC 73112, (405)848-4811, Free WiFi. Two Sections: Open, and Reserve (U1600). EF: $40 if mailed by 7/9, $50 thereafter, FREE entry for Masters 2200+ (deducted from winnings).

Prizes $$2100 Open: $500(G)-200 U2100: 200-100, U1900: 200-100, Reserve (U1600): $250-100, U1400: 200-100, U1100/UNR: 150. More $$ if entries permit. Byes: One half-point bye Rds 1-5 if commit before Sat 9PM. REG: 9-9:45 Sat AM Rounds: 10-2:30-7, 9-1:15. Entries to: Tom Braunlich, 7500 S. Birch, Broken Arrow OK 74011. Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net Web: www.ocfchess.org

July 13-15, 2018 KANSAS OPEN Lenexa, KS

Site: Clarion Hotel, 12601 W. 95th St., Lenexa, KS (near Kansas City). 3 sections: (7/14 and 7/15) 5SS, G/120 d5. Prizes: $2070 b/80 non-scholastic rate entries, Open(all): $350-250-150, U1900: $120. Reserve(U1800): $300-200-100, U1600: $75. Amateur(U1400): $250-150-75, U1200: $50. Clear or tiebreak winner $25 bonus to top KS resident in each section. EF: $45 mailed by 7/7, $55 thereafter. Special: $10 discount for advance entry into both KS Open + Blitz, $10 entry fee for Scholastics, not competing for cash, but for awards in Reserve or Amateur (and Blitz). www.kansaschess.org Reg.: 7/14 8:00-9:30am. Rds.: 7/14: 10-2:30-7, 7/15: 9:30-2:00. BLITZ and BUGHOUSE side events See website: www.kansaschess.org. Ent: Laurence Coker, 8013 W. 145th St., Overland Park, KS 66223. wlcoker7@hotmail.com.

July 21-22, 2018 ARKANSAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Fort Smith, AR

5-SS; G/110;d10; 5805 Hwy 271S, Ft. Smith, AR. 2 Sections. Premiere (1800+) & Reserve(1000-1799): EF: $40; AFTER 7/14/18 +$15. USCF req'd. Prizes: Premiere $525 (G)/$300 (G), Class A $200; Reserve $300 (G), Class B,C,D/u $150/ea. Sat. only -Knights (U1200): 6rd SS, G/35 d5. No-USCF req'd. PF: $75 (G),$40 (G), Class E,F,G/U $30/ea. "Plus" Certificates. EF: $25, after 7/14 +$10. ALL: Class $/ req. 4 min. Check-in: 8-8:45AM. Walk-in reg. closes 8:30AM. Rd. 1 9AM. Bye by Rd. 3. Airport/food/hotels near. AR players: ACA req'd, eligible for AR titles/awards. TD: KarisCM@cox.net See: http://westarkchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-AR-State-Championship-v.5.4-1.pdf

July 28-Aug 5 119th U.S. OPEN Madison, WI

9SS, 40/120, SD/60; d5 (9-day, 6-Day, 4-Day schedule options). Madison Marriott West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr., Middleton, WI 53582. Many side events. http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2018/usopen/